

Mr. President, I have hearing notice from the Urban Affairs Committee. That is signed by Senator Withem.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I should tell you that LB 251 and 251A will not be handled today. Senator Wesely is still out of town and he has requested that we pass over that in case we get to it today. Move on to LB 520. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 520 was a bill offered by Senator Beutler. (Read.) The bill was read on January 22 of last year. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, are you going to handle the committee amendments? All right. (Standing Committee amendments are found in the Journal on page 1311, First Session.)

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Colleagues, the Uniform Arbitration Act, which is brought to us by Senator Beutler, is a complex, comprehensive piece of legislation that significantly changes or has the potential for changing the method we have in Nebraska of resolving disputes, disputes of any kind, disputes that under the current system would virtually always wind up in court. I think, Mr. Speaker, it would make sense for me to ask Senator Beutler or the Speaker to ask Senator Beutler to explain the act first because with that explanation behind us why then the committee amendments, an explanation of the committee amendments will make more sense.

SPEAKER NICHOL: I will do that. Perhaps you could give it to us somewhat briefly, Senator Beutler, then we'll go with the amendments and back to the bill, of course.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I will be brief. I just want to deal with it conceptually a little bit, don't want to get into all the technical details and procedures because there are, of necessity, a great many procedures and technical details that have to be dealt with. But the basic thrust of the Uniform Arbitration Act is to allow the citizens of Nebraska to settle disputes through the use of arbitrators of their